



**The Agenda
for Growth
Making It Happen**

2006 - 2009 Action Plan



**The Regional Forestry
Framework for England's
Northwest**

**The Agenda for Growth
Making It Happen**

2006-2009 Action Plan

Introduction

The Regional Forestry Framework for England's Northwest – The Agenda for Growth – was published in 2005 with the aim of helping to shape the woodland and forestry sector in our region for the next twenty years.

The Framework is a dynamic, inspirational and action-orientated document. It is based on six Action Areas, which also structure this document:

- Enterprise and Industry;
- Regional Image;
- Biodiversity and Landscape;
- Health, Well-being and Quality of Life;
- Climate Change and Energy; and
- Supporting and Resourcing the Sector.

The intention is to ensure that the development and management of the region's trees, woodlands and forestry proactively assists in the regeneration and sustainable development of England's Northwest. This can only be achieved if effective and relevant action on the ground is achieved. That is the purpose of this Action Plan entitled **"Making it Happen"**.

The Action Areas of the Framework are the constants around which specific activities will be developed and delivered over the next twenty years. These activities will be taken forward in focused three-year Action Plans that are the result of wide consultation on a broad range of possible actions. Feedback from the consultation process and information on how the actions in this plan have been shaped and selected is on the Regional Forestry Framework website www.iwood.org.uk.

The six Action Areas are not mutually exclusive and there are close links between many of them, for example many climate change priorities are linked to biodiversity actions. The plan will work within the dynamics of regional priorities and will regularly seek to develop new and existing opportunities and actions.

Through the consultation process several key issues have emerged and run through each of the Action Areas;

- Climate change
- Green infrastructure
- Skills and training
- Leadership and capacity building
- Improving the evidence base
- Sustainable economic growth

The principles guiding trees, woodlands and forestry set out in the Framework document provide an important steer in delivering this Action Plan:

- This is a diverse region with distinct local characteristics – so we must tailor our approach;
- Partnership and integration are key to ensuring a way forward for forestry in the region;
- Trees and woodlands are a resource for all – involvement and true engagement of the public is key to the long-term sustainability of local woodlands;
- Woodland owners must be engaged and supported in order to achieve real public benefit and sustainable forest management;
- The long-term nature of the Framework needs to be acknowledged and a degree of continuity and commitment is therefore vital to successful delivery;
- We have a strategically and economically significant forest products industry to build on;
- We must encourage a landscape-scale approach to woodland creation and management;
- Attributing real economic and public benefit to these actions must remain our aspiration.

Delivery of the Plan

The Action Plan will have to be delivered by a range of partners in the Northwest through ongoing and new activities. It will be championed by the Regional Forestry Framework Delivery group, which has responsibility for reviewing the Plan annually and updating it every three years.

The Delivery group will produce a Governance and Delivery Plan in 2006.

Potential resources have been identified for each action and much of the delivery will be through partners' existing and future work programmes.

There are detailed forestry and woodland actions being delivered through other national, regional and sub regional plans and strategies. These are not replicated in this Plan, but are complementary to it.

There is a lot to get excited about in delivering positive action for trees, woodlands and forestry in England's Northwest and we hope that you will help us make it happen. If you would like further information, or want to get involved, please see the contact details on the back page.

Action Area One

Enterprise and Industry

Developing and supporting our woodland and forestry businesses

Priorities for Action

- a) The range of employment options and diversity of skills needed in modern forestry has widened substantially from the requirements of traditional forestry. These new career paths need specialist training provision to meet the specific needs of the sector in the North West.
- b) Existing business advice services need to provide, and be seen to provide, support that meets the specific requirements of the woodland and forestry sector.
- c) The timber sector in its broadest sense will benefit from increased cooperation, both within and beyond the region, to enhance its value to the North West.
- d) A strategic programme is needed to build on the environmental credentials of the sector. Particular efforts should be made to develop the true potential of wood energy and the opportunities offered by marketing of regional forest products with a view to influencing the development of local and regional timber product purchasing policies.

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
1	Create an accurate and comprehensive regional database of businesses in the sector	1 database created	Greater connectivity across, and communication throughout, the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) • Forestry Commission (FC) 	Single Pot/NWDA, FC		X	
2	Build an adequate profile for forestry and timber sector skills issues	<p>A Skills Issues Paper produced</p> <p>9 land-based Sector Skills and Productivity Alliance (SSPA) meetings attended by lead body</p>	Forestry and timber sector represented on SSPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National School of Forestry (NSF) • SSPA/Lantra 	SSPA-Lantra, NSF	X	X	X
3	<p>Encourage land-based SSPA to undertake audit of forestry sector skills needs, focusing on business support, distinguishing likely ‘universal’ and more targeted needs of the sector</p> <p>Develop Forestry Centre of Vocational Excellence (COVE) and it’s linkages with other sectors</p>	<p>An audit completed</p> <p>Forestry COVE developed as part of ‘Skills for Sustainability Academy’</p>	<p>Development of industry specific training and business support available across the region</p> <p>Increased connection between forestry and related sectors e.g. construction and energy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSF Land-based SSPA/Lantra • NWDA 	Regional Skills Partnership, SSPA budget		X	
4	Influence lead regional partners (Rural Development Programme for England Delivery & Rural Business Support Group) to ensure adequate future support for forestry and timber businesses	A Business Issues Paper drawn up and presented to North West Rural Priorities Board and to the Rural Business Support Group	Adequate future support for forestry and timber businesses developed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWDA • Forest, Timber and Paper Industry sector 	NWDA & industry	X		
5	Explore how professional bodies can provide the technical expertise and specialist business support needed in the sector	2 new opportunities for business support provision from relevant providers piloted	Growth and development of forestry and timber businesses in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWDA • NSF • Forestry representation bodies 	Rural Development Programme for England			X

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
6	Work with national wood promotion bodies to bring more national timber promotion events to the North West and identify opportunities for joint activity	2 national events held in the North West	Higher profile for the sector and the sustainable solutions that the sector can provide Increase the market share for wood-based products and more product substitution to wood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Forests Northwest (CFNW) • Other Woodland Initiatives 	FC, NWDA, CFNW sponsorship		X	X
7	<p>Develop a pilot Forestry Sector Leadership Project to promote networking and assist in the development of a sector leadership group</p> <p>Cluster development through England Forestry Industries Partnership North West (EFIP NW) that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • share knowledge/skills • develop a market-led not supply-led approach • link with Scottish/Welsh campaigns' Action Plan to promote Framework • link to national Wood for Good campaign <p>Signpost markets for high quality timber and work to develop markets for poor quality timber, e.g. wood fuel</p>	<p>2 'Meet the Buyer' events held</p> <p>2 working lunches held</p> <p>2 seminars for business held</p> <p>North West made use of National England Forestry Industries Partnership (EFIP) study findings</p>	<p>Greater confidence in, and leadership for, the sector</p> <p>Development of an industry voice within the region</p> <p>Increased capacity and across the board quality of delivery with appropriate activity from EFIP NW Leaders Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NWDA • FC • Private sector/industry • Education establishments 	Single Pot/NWDA, FC, industry and sector		X	X
8	Establish and develop a North West Woodlands portal – www.iwood.org.uk	1 portal developed	Better co-ordination and networking to inform and connect the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Regional Forestry Framework Delivery group 	Single Pot/NWDA, sponsorship	X		

Action Area Two Regional Image

Using woodlands and forestry to promote and improve the image of the region

Priorities for Action

- a) A coherent and ambitious programme of gateway and transport corridor greening across the region will provide a major improvement to 'first impressions'.
- b) Our region should be strategically and practically promoting our woodland-based and woodland-linked tourism destinations to extend and enhance the visitor experience in the North West.
- c) Building on the North West's reputation as a leader in this area, more can be done to promote our work on woodlands as a viable tool in the regeneration and reclamation of derelict land.
- d) Influencing the planning system and providing advice and guidance to planners will encourage the integration of trees and woodlands into development schemes.

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
9	Map the main gateways and important transport routes, both existing and proposed	Map of key target areas for woodland planting on transport routes Plan in place for resourcing the woodland planting	Funding in place for delivery of improved image and pollution reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NWDA • Highways Agency (HA) • Natural England (NE) 	FC	X		
10	Develop links to Liverpool Capital of Culture (CoC) 2008	Forest component of Capital of Culture showcase for the sector in the region	Improved profile and awareness of the sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFNW • NE • FC • CoC • NWDA 	CFNW, NE	X	X	
11	Continue to deliver Newlands and ensure that this approach is seen as a significant regional delivery mechanism for land regeneration to woodlands	Targeted programme of derelict land reclamation Updated Derelict, Underused and Neglected land (DUNI) survey in line with NWDA Land Regeneration Strategy	Improved image for the region Increased confidence in the ability of the sector to deliver against this agenda Continued development of the expertise of the sector in this aspect of land management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NWDA • CFNW • Groundwork (GWK) • NE • Forestry Initiatives • Land Restoration Trust (LRT) 	NWDA, FC, NE	X	X	X
12	Input into Green Infrastructure guide	Forestry and woodlands seen as having a key role to play in delivering an improved image in the region	Improved range of opportunities for funding and strategic support for forestry and woodlands as an essential component of GI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North West Regional Assembly (NWRA) • Local Authorities (LAs) • CFNW • NE • FC 	LAs, CFNW	X		
13	Key facts for developers and planners toolkit	Information available to developers to assist in their design and management of woodland and forest schemes associated with new development	Increased awareness of opportunities to improve the image and the quality of new development through woodland and forest planting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North West Regional Assembly (NWRA) • LAs • FC • NWDA • NE • CFNW • Government Office Northwest (GONW) 	NWRA	X	X	

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
14	Support development of a network of expertise in land reclamation	Identify and co-ordinate the organisations that could constitute the network of expertise	<p>Increased profile of the cluster of organisations</p> <p>Opportunities to increase activity, providing more jobs and business development/innovation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EnviroLink • RENEW • CFNW • FC • GWK • NWDA • LRT 	EnviroLink			X
15	Identify potential for forest parks in the future that have the ability to serve as visitor destinations	Evaluation of existing and potential forest parks that can become visitor destinations	Development of a longer term strategy for the contribution that the forest parks can make to tourism economy in the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourist Boards (TB) • FC • CFNW • Woodland Initiatives • Key woodland owners • Natural Economy North West 	TB		X	

08
09

Action Area Three Biodiversity and Landscape

Maximising the benefits that trees and woodland bring to our region's biodiversity and landscape

Priorities for Action

- a) A joint agenda for agriculture and woodlands will deliver continued improvements for trees and woodlands, and schemes will be supported that bring benefits to our region's landscape, biodiversity and to forestry businesses.**
- b) The linkage and expansion of existing areas of woodland, if carried out sensitively, will create more functional and biologically diverse habitats, addressing the effect of our fragmented woodlands.**
- c) Consistent engagement with policy makers will ensure that the importance of trees and woodlands is fully appreciated and is visibly included in the key regional policies and strategies that will shape the future of the North West.**
- d) Targeting key woodlands for entry into management schemes and providing protection for ancient woodlands and important trees will meet landscape and biodiversity objectives in the North West. Tree and woodland management should also contribute to the achievement of Habitat and Species Biodiversity Action Plan targets.**

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
16	Initiate, support and implement landscape scale projects and their promotion	Best practice sites and training available	Effective and innovative projects throughout the region that integrate all land management uses in a given area where woodlands and forestry play a key role, e.g. climate change, soil protection and water quality, or where they can be shown to contribute a positive secondary role and subsequent promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NE • FC • Environment Agency (EA) • Woodland Initiatives 	NE, FC	X	X	X
17	Identify geographical gaps using Joint Character Areas (JCA) or other spatial divisions as appropriate, where new projects are needed to achieve objectives and build ecological networks	Regional priority areas identified for creating and extending native woodland, promoting the use of locally native species in planting schemes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NE • FC • EA • Woodland Trust • Woodland Initiatives 	FC, NE		X	X
18	Review Woodland Visions across the region	Updated Woodland Visions in place for each sub region	To have and promote Woodland Visions throughout the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland Initiatives • LAs • Sub regional woodland forums • Sub regional partnerships 	Sub regional partnerships		X	X
19	Increase tree planting in urban areas	More urban trees	Increased tree planting of the appropriate species in urban areas and gardens to create better wildlife habitats and enable adaptation to climate change in an urban context (see AA5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LAs • CFNW • FC • NE 	LAs	X	X	X
20	Continued support and management of the Deer Management Groups	Decreasing deer population	Appropriate control of deer populations to allow regeneration of woodland/ habitats through the Deer Initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deer Initiatives • National Trust (NT) • Private landowners • FC 	FC	X	X	X
21	Map all the Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs), ancient and semi-natural woodland areas in the North West	Surveys done and maps produced	All the BAP, ancient and semi-natural woodlands in the North West are mapped, with regional coordination of data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NE • Woodland Trust • Local Authorities 	FC		X	X

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
22	Provide incentives through proactive targeting and appropriate scoring/ weighting of England Woodland Grants Scheme (EWGS) and Environmental Stewardship schemes	Targeting of schemes and scoring to favour biodiversity, landscape and joint applications/ large schemes to achieve BAP targets	All Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) by area (woodland) are in favourable condition, and 95% by 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NE • FC 	Environmental Stewardship (ES), EWGS	X	X	X
		Development of new and innovative projects using our flagship species and habitats	<p>Achievement of the regional and local BAP targets</p> <p>Integrated landscape scale approach both within schemes and between schemes</p> <p>Land managers working together to create greater linkages between woodland, veteran trees and other habitats</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local BAP (LBAP) managers • NE • FC • Woodland Initiatives 	ES, EWGS	X	X	X
23	Provision of advice and long term woodland planning assistance to give landowners more confidence to manage their woodlands sustainably for biodiversity	<p>Advice delivered to landowners</p> <p>Workshops promoted and run on management plans (and certification where appropriate), and the use of the new grants available</p>	<p>Sustainable management for woodlands to increase biodiversity, without the need for long-term grant aid</p> <p>30% more woodlands in the North West to have long-term management plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NE • Woodland Initiatives • LBAP managers 	NE, FC, LAs	X	X	X
24	<p>Introduce a veteran tree scheme for the North West</p> <p>Promote veteran tree management through Environmental Stewardship</p> <p>Promote and utilise Ancient Tree Hunt findings</p>	Veteran Tree scheme established	Protection of veteran trees and pollards (and creation of new) in rural and urban areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NE • LAs • Tree Council (TC) • WT • NT 	ES		X	X

Action Area Four Health, Well-being and Quality of Life

Using woodlands to improve our health, well-being and quality of life

Priorities for Action

- a) We must work with woodland owners to develop a multi-purpose woodland management approach that caters for the needs of different recreational users, and engage with tourism and leisure bodies to increase the promotion of accessible woodlands.**
- b) Targeted woodland creation and management would deliver enhanced access to woodlands near areas of high population density and significant quality of life benefits.**
- c) Policies linking woodlands and health to local authority planning must be encouraged, while hospitals and other healthcare establishments can lead the way by developing woodlands and greenspace within their grounds. The ongoing development of schemes such as GP referrals for exercise must be encouraged.**
- d) The region should take every opportunity to develop woodlands and associated activities that utilise them as outdoor classrooms in which to build life skills.**

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
25	Map all woodlands against “need and opportunity” including existing programmes, accessibility and barriers (to include hospitals and healthcare establishments)	Maps of region, sub regions and LA areas	Information source for organisations to use Identification of priority areas/people for access, health and advocacy work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFNW • FC (collate information and carry out mapping) • WT • Woodland Initiatives • NE • GWK • Public Health Observatory 	FC PBRS budget	X		
26	Targeted woodland creation and management using mapping above which will identify gaps and priority places and people	New woodland in targeted areas Increased access to existing woodland in target areas	Major progress towards ‘Woodland Access Space for People’ standards in targeted areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • CFNW/Woodland Initiatives • WT • NE 	FC Woodland Creation Grant and Woodland Improvement Grant (WIG), WT		X	
27	Collect and promote Best Practice for practitioners, landowners and agents on access, recreation opportunities, engagement and health, using information from current pilot projects	Best Practice directory held on iwood website	Enable a greater amount, and an increased quality, of woodland access, with the appropriate type of community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NE • Woodland Initiatives • CFs • FC • WT • GONW Public Health team 	NE		X	
28	Promotion of woodlands as a resource to deliver existing health, sport and physical activity schemes	Links made with local schemes Increase number of people accessing and using local woodlands on foot or bike	Increased activity in existing woodland resource for health related schemes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland Initiatives • CFNW • NE • FC • GONW Public Health team • Sport England (SE) • Sport and Physical Activity Alliances (SPAA) • County Sports Partnerships (CSP) 	GONW Public Health team, NE		X	
29	Advocacy and influencing of decision makers	Increased funding and support for woodland related health and quality of life projects e.g. through development of Local Area Agreements (LAA) indicators Relationships formed with health and tourism sectors Funders resource people to support/build capacity	Make links and influence key funders and regional decision makers about opportunities from woodlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • CFNW • Woodland Initiatives • GONW Public Health team • NE • WT • British Trust of Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) • GWK 	FC		X	

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
30	<p>Assess pilot Forest Schools in region, promote approach and establish training capacity</p> <p>Investigate links with other schemes such as eco-schools and healthy schools, using school grounds and local woodlands as a resource</p>	<p>Validated Higher Education certificate in 'Developing Forest Schools'</p> <p>Pilot of early years Forest Schools promoted</p> <p>Eden Brows developed for older age groups</p>	<p>Promotion of The Forest Schools approach through pilots and training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National School of Forestry, Newton Rigg • Other Forest Schools in region • FC • Woodland Initiatives • CFs • WT • GWK • BTCV • Wildlife Trusts (WLT) • LA Learning Networks • Landscape Trusts 	<p>Newton Rigg</p>	X		
31	<p>Meet with those involved in current projects related to worklessness to review skill/capacity building schemes</p> <p>Consider development of an environmental escalator, incorporating several levels of engagement</p>	<p>Project developed and funded</p>	<p>Pilot run which develops skills and capacity of workless on incapacity benefit in one of the high priority geographical areas and groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mersey Forest • BTCV • FC • GWK • Job Centre Plus • NSF COVE • NE 	<p>Funding bid to be put together once project developed</p>		X	
32	<p>Evaluate and promote Haverigg Prison work pilot and develop to include more skills development</p> <p>Promote health benefits to inmates in addition to environmental benefits</p>	<p>Evaluation report</p> <p>Pilot extended to another prison in region</p>	<p>Increase in skills development and improvement in prisoner/probationer health at Haverigg</p> <p>Approach promoted to other prisons, probation services and landowners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • GONW (Home Office) • Haverigg Prison • BTCV • Healthy Settings Unit UCLan • NSF • COVE • Other prisons • NE • NT • Other landowners 	<p>FC to co-ordinate evaluation</p> <p>GONW to promote approach to prisons</p> <p>Prisons to develop and fund pilots</p>	X	X	X

Action Area Five Climate Change and Energy

The role of trees and woodlands in adapting to the impacts of climate change

Priorities for Action

- a) A concerted programme to increase vegetation and tree planting in urban areas would use urban trees as a key solution in the development of a region-wide strategy to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Our use of floodplains and upland areas needs to be addressed, planting trees and woodlands in a mosaic with other semi-natural habitats to help alleviate possible flooding and erosion (see Action Area Three).**
- b) The role of timber in construction projects, particularly in new housing developments, should be promoted as a low energy, low impact building material. (See Action Area One).**
- c) The creation of new, and management of existing woodlands must contribute to the creation of functional ecosystems and support species migration and adaptation. The consolidation and expansion of existing biodiversity 'hotspots' (such as ancient woodland) will increase the resilience of local habitats to the possible impacts of climate change. (See Action Area Three).**
- d) We should encourage and enable the production of roundwood for energy from a range of sources including managed woodlands and short rotation coppice grown on agricultural land.**

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
33	Facilitate and promote, to the whole supply chain, the benefits and opportunities of biomass energy and carbon savings	3 regional meetings held to promote the uptake of all types of wood biomass	Increase in the production of biomass and the demand for the product Work with RDPE objectives	• NE Farm Demonstration activity	NE	X		
34	Access Capital Grants Scheme funding to assist in the installation of medium-sized biomass boilers to stimulate supply chain development	Installation of 3 medium-sized boilers in the region	Provide best practice examples in the region Assist in the establishment of the supply chain	• NWDA Transformational Energy Projects	NWDA potential fund for all energy projects	X	X	
35	Advocacy for the biomass sector in the North West (including under managed woodland, processing by-products and Short Rotation Coppice)	North West Woodfuel Biomass Strategy created by Autumn 2006	Assist in the promotion of the biomass technology through independent regional advice and links to the national Biomass Energy Centre Information to be used to spatially target activity	• North West Biomass Contacts Group • FC • Biomass Task Force (BTF) • NSF	CFNW, Woodland Initiatives	X	X	X
36	Provide regional information to planners and developers on the opportunities for biomass installations and use in relation to Planning Policy Statement 22 Renewable Energy	Regional guidance produced by Spring 2007	Recognition of biomass opportunities by planners and developers Embed biomass as mainstream renewable alternative	• GONW • NWRA	GONW		X	
37	Develop demonstration facility for biomass installations	Demonstration centre	Integration of biomass with sustainable building technology	• NSF • Cumbria Woodlands • Cumbria Vision	Cumbria Vision		X	X
38	Research the role of trees, woodland and forestry in the low carbon economy	Research papers, theses and documents with appropriate recommendations	Increased knowledge and awareness	• NSF • Tyndall Centre • Sustainability Northwest • Other Universities	Energy Research Centre (ERC), Research Councils	X	X	X

Action Area Six

Supporting and Resourcing the Sector

Priorities for Action

- a) The spatial and thematic targeting of resources will best deliver public benefits, firstly in the management of existing woodlands and forestry businesses and secondly through the creation of strategically placed new woodlands.
- b) The development of an integrated (social, economic and environmental) landscape scale approach will assist resource allocation for woodlands and associated industry growth.
- c) Woodland development should be supported and delivered through broad, cross-sector partnerships to ensure that resources are accessible and delivery meets local needs.
- d) The roles of the public forest estates are as a champion for the new woodlands agenda, and as a catalyst for widespread local social, economic and environmental development.
- e) A climate for economic growth could be created by supporting and seeking to resource cooperation and communication across the sector in its broadest sense. (See Action Area One).
- f) An advocacy campaign that promotes wood products and demystifies woodlands to show them as assets, and forestry as asset management, will gain the support and investment needed to ensure that our woodlands can deliver the broadest range of public benefits.

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
39	<p>The use and development of Public Benefits Recording System (PBRS) as an aid for strategic planning and investment for other action areas</p> <p>Promotion of PBRS approach to funders, decision makers and stakeholders</p>	<p>Priorities identified</p> <p>Zoning and market failure map – High and Low potential</p>	<p>Better targeting; transparent and simple presentation</p> <p>Evidenced-based and SMART identification of local needs</p> <p>Acceptance and adoption</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • Others as appropriate 	Partners	X	X	X
40	<p>Identify principal North West sector funding sources</p> <p>Clearly and simply present this to the sector, specifically 06-07 on RDPE</p>	Seminar in 2007 when RDPE and Natural England are up and running	Awareness, funding realism, culture change – value added funding deployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • Public & private sector eg. Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF) • Forestry and Timber Association (FTA) • Royal Forestry Society (RFS) 	Partners	X	X	X
41	<p>Identify and promote (via production of case studies) best practice from within North West, Great Britain, European Union and worldwide, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bassenthwaite Catchment Study • Forest Futures linked to RDPE targets 	Case studies produced and promoted	<p>Partnership building and knowledge transfer</p> <p>Increased synergy</p> <p>Added value and value for money - reduced duplication</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • Cumbria Woodlands • Woodland Initiatives 	FC (funding Forest Futures Study), NE, EA	X	X	
42	Creation of a Future Visioning Forum to enable woodland and other key landowners to participate in the delivery of RFF	Future Visioning Forum created	Shared agenda enabling change, innovation and a forward thinking sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NWDA • Private sector 	FTA and FC, others will enable	X	X	X
43	<p>Review and seek to safeguard existing capacity/delivery mechanisms</p> <p>Aim for a market-led approach</p>	<p>Clearly defined support for Woodlands Initiatives and other delivery capacity</p> <p>Use of RDPE and new LEADER programme</p>	Sustainable and confident delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NE • NWDA • Private sector 	Participation by delivery mechanisms and funders	X	X	X

	Action	Outputs	Outcomes	Lead body (in bold), Partners	Key Resource £ †	06 07	07 08	08 09
44	Public Forest Estate to exemplify the way forward (e.g. redevelopment of Grizedale) and to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • share commercial advice with those seeking to develop similar public benefit delivery • develop commercial partnerships, post Regulation Reform Order • share training and marketing needs and opportunities 	North West Forest District (NW FD) to facilitate a series of business open days with appropriate partners to showcase its work and approach	Joint actions with private sector on key issues such as skills, e.g. 2005 windblow seminar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NW FD • Private sector 	NW FD and partners		X	X
45	Create advocacy capacity for forestry, to promote trees and woodlands as an important option in sustainable land management	Targeted communications and media campaign	Cross discipline understanding and increased awareness of sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NW RFF Steering Group (NW RFF SG) 	FC	X	X	X
46	Revise the NW RFF SG into a delivery group At the sub regional level, enable ownership and delivery through sub regional fora	Delivery plan/framework created	Focused delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NW RFF SG 	NW RFF SG	X	X	X
47	Continue working closely with the key regional policy makers and input to all regional and local strategies	Woodland policies in all strategies and plans	Forestry, woodlands and trees are a key component of all regional, sub regional and local policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FC • NE • NWRA • NWDA • GONW • WT 	NW RFF SG	X	X	X

Glossary of terms, organisations and programmes

Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)

The UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP) describes the UK's biological resources with a detailed plan for the protection of these resources. It has 391 Species Action Plans, 45 Habitat Action Plans and 162 Local Biodiversity Action Plans (LBAP) with targeted actions. www.ukbap.org.uk

The British Trust of Conservation Volunteers (BTCV)

BTCV is an international volunteering organisation providing the bridge between global environmental ideals and local reality in the UK and overseas. BTCV is a charity relying almost entirely on voluntary donations. www.btcv.org.uk

Community Forests Northwest (CFNW)

Community Forests Northwest was created in 2001 to generate funding and raise awareness of the Northwest region's two Community Forests. www.cfnw.org

Centres of Vocational Excellence (COVE)

Centres of Vocational Excellence are central to the Learning and Skills Council's aim to improve and develop skills for employers that are needed to underpin business success and economic competitiveness. www.lsc.gov.uk

County Sports Partnership (CSP)

CSPs are partnerships of agencies committed to providing a high quality single system for people to benefit from sport. www.sportengland.org

Cumbria Vision (CV)

Cumbria Vision is the regeneration company for the county of Cumbria. www.cumbriavision.co.uk

Cumbria Woodlands (CW)

Cumbria Woodlands is an initiative with the aim to improve and increase sustainable woodland management within the sub-region of Cumbria. www.cumbriawoodlands.co.uk

The Deer Initiative (DI)

The Deer Initiative is a broad partnership of statutory, voluntary and private interests dedicated to ensuring the delivery of a sustainable, well-managed wild deer population in England and Wales. The Deer Initiative is a registered charity with a Board of Trustees drawn from the full partners. www.thedeerinitiative.co.uk

Elwood

Elwood (East Lancashire Woodlands) is creating a multi-use sustainable woodland landscape throughout East Lancashire, developed by and contributing to the quality of life of the people who live and work there. www.eastlancswoodlands.org.uk

England Forestry Industries Partnership North West (EFIP North)

EFIP North is an industry leaders group, established in 2005 to promote cross-sector working and forge new partnerships within the timber, forestry and related industries.

England Woodland Grants Scheme (EWGS)

The English Woodland Grant Scheme is the Forestry Commission's suite of grants designed to develop the co-ordinated delivery of public benefits from England's woodlands. www.forestry.gov.uk/ewgs

Envirolink

Envirolink Northwest exists to promote, strengthen and support the environmental technologies and services sector in England's Northwest. Supported by the North West Regional Assembly. www.envirolinknorthwest.co.uk

Environment Agency (EA)

The leading public body for protecting and improving the environment in England and Wales. It is funded in part by grants from the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (Defra). Income is also raised through charging schemes and flood defence levies. www.environment-agency.gov.uk

Environmental Stewardship (ES)

Environmental Stewardship is a new agri-environment scheme, which provides funding to farmers and

other land managers in England who deliver effective environmental management on their land. The scheme is intended to build on the recognised success of the Environmental Sensitive Areas scheme and the Countryside Stewardship Scheme. www.defra.gov.uk

Forestry Commission (FC)

The Forestry Commission is the Government Department responsible for forestry throughout Great Britain. Funded by government through the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. www.forestry.gov.uk

Forestry and Timber Association (FTA)

The Forestry and Timber Association is the UK's leading representative body for all those with an interest, or a professional involvement, in the growing and management of trees. www.forestryandtimber.org

Groundwork (GWK)

Groundwork is a federation of Trusts in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, each working with their partners to improve the quality of the local environment, the lives of local people and the success of local businesses in areas in need of investment and support. Groundwork is a registered charity. Funding is secured from a variety of sources including the UK Government and devolved assemblies, local authorities, the private sector, charitable trusts, the European Union, the National Lottery and from individual legacies and donations. www.groundwork.org.uk

Government Office for the North West (GONW)

The regional Governmental office for the Northwest of England, GONW improves the quality of life of people in the region by serving Ministers effectively and ensuring that Government policy is developed and implemented in the best way. www.gos.gov.uk/gonw

Healthy Settings Unit (UCLan)

The Healthy Settings Unit aims to support and facilitate the holistic and integrated development of healthy settings. It is part of the University of Central Lancashire. www.uclan.ac.uk/facs/health/hsdu

Institute of Chartered Foresters (ICF)

The Institute of Chartered Foresters is the professional body for foresters and arborists throughout the UK. It is regulated by its Royal Charter, Bylaws and Regulations and sets and maintains the standards for the profession and safeguards the public interest in matters relating to forests, woodlands and trees. www.charteredforesters.org

Joint Character Areas (JCA)

Joint Character Areas were first devised as a means of describing the essential character of distinct areas of the English Countryside, based on the landscape, wildlife and natural features.

The Highways Agency (HA)

The Highways Agency is an Executive Agency of the Department for Transport (DfT), and is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network in England on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport. Funded by the Department for Transport. www.highways.gov.uk

Job Centre Plus (JCP)

Jobcentre Plus is a Government agency supporting people of working age from welfare into work, and helping employers to fill their vacancies. Funded through the Department for Work and Pensions. www.jobcentreplus.gov.uk

Land Restoration Trust (LRT)

Created by a partnership comprising English Partnerships, Groundwork, the Forestry Commission and the Environment Agency, the Land Restoration Trust is tackling enduring dereliction across England. www.landrestorationtrust.org.uk

Lantra

Lantra is the Sector Skills Council for the environmental and land-based sector. It is licensed by Secretary of State for Education. www.lantra.co.uk

Lancashire Woodland Project

Lancashire Woodland Project aims to encourage the sustainable management of Lancashire woodlands, support the development of local timber use and

manufacture of timber products, develop a woodland outreach programme to engage all sectors of the community and promote co-operation between all sectors of the woodland industry in the county.
www.lancashire.gov.uk/environment/forestry

Liverpool Capital of Culture 2008 (CoC)

The European Capital of Culture programme is run by the European Union (EU) and is the successor to the European City of Culture programme, which finishes in 2007. Liverpool will be the Capital of Culture in 2008. Funded by the EU.
www.liverpool08.com

Learning and Skills Council (LSC)

The LSC exists to make England better skilled and more competitive. Their goal is to improve the skills of England's young people and adults to make sure we have a workforce that is of world-class standards. Funded through the Department for Education.
www.lsc.gov.uk/National

The Mersey Forest (TMF)

The Mersey Forest is the largest of England's 12 Community Forests. The Mersey Forest covers 420 square miles of Merseyside and North Cheshire, and 1.6 million people live in The Forest.
www.merseyforest.org.uk

National School of Forestry (NSF)

Based in Penrith, the National School of Forestry has long been one of the country's most respected centres for forestry education and training.
www.forestry.org.uk

Natural England (NE)

NE is an integrated agency, comprising of English Nature (EN), the landscape, access and recreation elements of the Countryside Agency (CA), and the environmental land management functions of the Rural Development Service (RDS). Independent statutory non-departmental public body, responsible to Defra.
www.defra.gov.uk/rural/ruraldelivery/natural-england.htm

The National Trust (NT)

The National Trust works to preserve and protect the coastline, countryside and buildings of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. The National Trust is a charity

and is completely independent of Government.
www.nationaltrust.org.uk

Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA)

The Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA) is responsible for the sustainable economic development and regeneration of England's Northwest. It is a non-departmental public body responsible to the Department of Trade and Industry.
www.nwda.co.uk

North West Regional Assembly (NWRA)

The North West Regional Assembly is a partnership that works to promote the economic, environmental and social well being of the North West of England.
www.nwra.gov.uk

Public Benefit Recording System (PBRS)

PBRS, an aid to strategic planning and investment, as both an analytical tool for unlocking social, economic and environmental benefits, and as a partnership building, cross-sectoral approach.
www.pbrs.org.uk

Pennine Edge Forest

Pennine Edge Forest is a community woodland initiative on the eastern edge of Greater Manchester. The Forest covers the districts of Rochdale, Oldham, Stockport and Tameside and is a partnership of the four local authorities, Groundwork Trusts, BTCV, United Utilities, Forestry Commission and Northwest Development Agency.
www.rochdale.gov.uk

RENEW Northwest (RENEW)

RENEW Northwest is a partnership established by the Northwest Regional Development Agency and Government Office for the North West (GONW). Governed by a Board appointed by the NWDA, it is led by a small staff team which co-ordinates activity. Funded by the NWDA and the Department for Communities and local Government.
www.renew.co.uk/

Red Rose Forest

Red Rose Forest is one of 12 Community Forests, and is a partnership of The Countryside Agency, the Forestry Commission and the Metropolitan Boroughs

of Bolton, Bury, Trafford and Wigan and the Cities of Manchester and Salford. It has an aim of transforming Greater Manchester through community forestry, and has a 40-year vision to help it achieve its goal.
www.redroseforest.co.uk

Royal Forestry Society (RFS)

The RFS is a Registered Charity with over 4,000 members. Not a pressure group, it works to further the appreciation, understanding and knowledge of trees, woods and forests.
www.rfs.org.uk

Sport England (SE)

Sport England is an organisation committed to creating opportunities for people to start in sport, stay in sport and succeed in sport. They promote and invest in sport and are responsible for delivering the Government's sporting objectives. Sport England distributes both Lottery and Exchequer funds to sport.
www.sportengland.org

Sport and Physical Activity Alliances (SPAAs)

SPAAs are a group of local 'deliverers' of sport and physical activity whose objective is to increase participation, widen access and have more success in sport and physical activity locally.

Sector Skills and Productivity Alliance (SSPA)

SSPA is a strategic initiative in the North West region, developed in response to a Skills White Paper, published in July 2004. The SSPA brings key funding and planning partners together to develop a skills and business development strategy for each sector.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

SSSIs are the country's very best wildlife and geological sites. They include some of our most spectacular and beautiful habitats. There are over 4,000 SSSIs in England, covering around 7% of the country's land area.
www.english-nature.org.uk/special/sssi/

Sustainability Northwest (SNW)

SNW works to inspire, innovate and advance the sustainability agenda for England's Northwest through a partnership ethos. An independent charity, backed by both business and public sectors, SNW addresses

the regeneration, corporate responsibility, renewable energy, climate change and waste agendas.
www.snw.org.uk

Tree Council (TC)

The Tree Council promotes the planting and conservation of trees in town and countryside. The lead UK tree campaigning partnership, it is an umbrella body for 150 organisations working together for trees. The Tree Council is a charity supported in part by DEFRA.
www.treecouncil.org.uk

Tyndall Centre (TyC)

The Tyndall Centre brings together scientists, economists, engineers and social scientists, who together are working to develop sustainable responses to climate change through trans-disciplinary research and dialogue on both a national and international level. The Tyndall Centre is funded by a partnership of the Natural Environment Research Council, Economic and Social Research Council and the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council.
www.tyndall.ac.uk

The Woodland Trust (WT)

The Woodland Trust is the UK's leading woodland conservation charity. It has more than 300,000 members and supporters. The Trust has four key aims: No further loss of ancient woodland; Restoring and improving the biodiversity of woods; Increasing new native woodland; Increasing people's understanding and enjoyment of woodland.
www.woodland-trust.org.uk

Woodland Initiatives (WI)

This collective term refers to the Mersey Forest, Red Rose Forest, Pennine Edge Forest, Lancashire Woodland Project, Elwoods and Cumbria Woodlands.

Contacts

For more information about the Northwest Regional Forestry Framework 'Agenda for Growth' or to get involved with delivering this Action Plan, please contact:

Forestry Commission
North West England Conservancy
Peil Wyke, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9YG

Tel: 01768 776 616 **Email:** northwest.fce@forestry.gsi.gov.uk **www:** www.iwood.org.uk

22
23

Steering Group members:



communityforestsnorthwest



GOVERNMENT OFFICE
FOR THE NORTH WEST



